

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA  
STATESVILLE DIVISION  
5:21-cv-00004-RJC-DSC**

MARTHA MAE JOHNSON, )  
                            )  
Plaintiff,               )  
                            )  
v.                        )  
                            )  
COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL )  
SECURITY,                )  
                            )  
Defendant.              )  
                            )  
\_\_\_\_\_  
                            )  
**ORDER**

**THIS MATTER** is before the Court on the Parties' Stipulation for Attorney's Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412. (Doc. No. 30).

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that upon stipulation of the parties, Defendant will pay Plaintiff \$12,000.00 in attorney's fees in full satisfaction of all claims arising under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412.

With respect to Plaintiff's signed assignment of EAJA fees to her attorney, in accordance with *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010), the Commissioner will determine whether Plaintiff owes a debt to the United States. If so, the debt will be satisfied first and, if any funds remain, they will be made payable to Plaintiff and mailed to Plaintiff's counsel. If the Department of the Treasury reports to the Commissioner that Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, the government will exercise its discretion and honor the assignment of EAJA fees and pay the awarded fees directly to Plaintiff's counsel.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Signed: August 14, 2024

Robert J. Conrad Jr.

Robert J. Conrad, Jr.  
United States District Judge

